

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05

IO-13 /074 W

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R 251150Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9625

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 ISLAMABAD 0885

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PK,PGOV

SUBJECT: BHUTTO UNVEILS PPP MANIFESTO AND KICKS OFF PARTY CAMPAIGN

1. INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY: WITH THE FLOURISH OF A PARTY AND LEADER CONFIDENT OF SUCCESS AT THE POLLS, PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO INTRODUCED THE NEW PPP ELECTION MANIFESTO AT A PRESS CONFERENCE ON JANUARY 24. THE MANIFESTO IS IN THE MAIN A SELF-LAUDATORY REVIEW OF PAST PPP ACHIEVEMENTS AND ALTHOUGH PHRASED IN THE STANDARD RHETORIC OF "ISLAMIC SOCIALISM" IS NOTEWORTHY FOR ITS OMISSION OF ANY FURTHER PROPOSALS FOR SPECIFIC RADICAL ECONOMIC OR SOCIAL REFORMS. THE TONE OF THE MANIFESTO, AND OF BHUTTO'S REMARKS AT HIS PRESS CONFERENCE INTRODUCING IT, IS SIMILAR TO THAT THE PM SET IN HIS JANUARY 23 RAWALPINDI RALLY SPEECH KICKING OFF THE PPP ELECTION DRIVE. SO FAR THE MOST NOTEWORTHY FEATURE OF THE PARTY'S CAMPAIGN, AND OF THE MANIFESTO, HAS NOT BEEN WHAT HAS BEEN SAID, BUT RATHER THE OMISSION OF THE RADICAL PROGRAMS AND INNOVATIONS THAT MODERATE PAKISTANIS HAD FEARED WOULD BE MAJOR PPP ELECTION THEMES. END

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INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY.

2. THE PPP MANIFESTO PARALLELS BHUTTO'S JANUARY 23 ELECTION CAMPAIGN RALLY KICKOFF SPEECH BY DWELLING AT LENGTH ON THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF HIS GOVERNMENT. HIS PARTY CLAIMS TO HAVE REASSEMBLED A NATION FROM A SHAMBLES, TO HAVE CREATED A NEW AND LIVELY ECONOMIC STRUCTURE FOR THE COUNTRY, TO HAVE

PRODUCED A CONSTITUTION ACCPETABLE TO THE NATION, TO HAVE PUT PAKISTAN FINALLY ON THE CORRECT DEFENSE AND FOREIGN POLICY PATHS, AND TO HAVE INITIATED ECONOMIC AND LAND REFORMS GEARED TO RAISING THE LOT OF PAKISTAN'S MASSES. IN HIS FIRST MAJOR SPEECH, IN HIS PRESS CONFERENCE AND IN HIS PARTY'S MANIFESTO, BHUTTO LOOKS TOWARD THE NEXT FIVE YEARS AS APERIOD IN WHICH TO CONSOLIDATE AND FIRMLY ESTABLISH IN PRACTICE THE REFORMS AND INNOVATIONS ALREADY ON THE BOOKS.

3. NEITHER BHUTTO'S SPEECHES NOR THE MANIFESTO INCLUDED ANY OF THE RADICAL ECONOMIC MEASURES WHICH HAD BEEN FARED BY CONSERVATIVE ELEMENTS IN PAKISTAN, SUCH AS A CEILING ON URBAN PROPERTY OR FURTHER NATIONALIZATION PROGRAMS. ALTHOUGH BHUTTO WAS CAREFUL NOT TO RULE OUT SUCH MEASURES, THE MANIFESTO'S GENERAL STATEMENT ON ECONOMIC POLICY WAS ESSENTIALLY A RESTATEMENT OF THE GOP POSITION OF IME PAST SEVERAL YEARS: "WHILE REMAINING COMITTED TO OVERALL STATE REGULATION AND PROMOTION OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITY AND DIRECT MANGEMENT OF KEY AREAS, THE PARTY ... ASSIGNS AN APPROPRIATELY IMPORTANT ROLE TO PRIVATE ENTERPRISE." WE REGARD THIS AS A SIGNIFICANT INDICATION OF THE TONE OF THE PPP CAMPAIGN.

4. THE MANIFESTO IS A SMORGASBOARD OF PROGRAMS AND PLANS WITH SOMETHING IN IT FOR ALMOST EVERYONE. IT SETS FORTH CERTAIN SPECIFIC ECONOMIC GOALS, TAKEN FROM PREVIOUSLY CIRCULATED GOP PLANNING DOCUMENTS. THESE INCLUDE 1981 ANNUAL PRODUCTION TARGETS FO WHEAT, RICE, SUGAR CANE, AND CONFIDENTIAL

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COTTON OF 25-70 PERCENT ABOVE 1976 OUTPUT; SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN STEEL, INCLUDING A SECOND STEEL MILL IN ADDITION TO THE SOVIET-FINANCED MILL; A 50PERCENT INCREASE IN TEXTILE OUTPUT AND A DOUBLING IN PRODUCTION OF CEMENT, SUGAR, AND GHEE; AND COMPLETION OF THE INDUS SUPER HIGHWAY. THE MANIFESTO ALSO SETS FORTH TARGETS FOR EXPANDED HEALTH CARE COVERAGE AND CLEAN WATER SUPPLY. ON THE POLITICAL SIDE, THE PLAN PROVIDES FOR ADULT FRANCHISE IN THE TRIBAL AREAS AND ESTABLISHMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT BODIES BASED ON ADULT FRANCHISE. IN SUCH A WIDE-RANGING DOCUMENT, THE FACT THAT NO MENTION WAS MADE OF POPULATION GOALS OR PROGRAMS OR NARCOTICS EFFORTS IN DISCOURAGING TO THOSE WHO FOLLOW THESE TWO FIELDS IN PAKISTAN.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 ISLAMABAD 0885

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5. IN PROJECTING PAKISTAN'S FOREIGN RELATIONS OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS THE MANIFESTO CONFIDENTLY ASSERTS THAT THROUGH "BILATERALISM" PAKISTAN WILL CONTINUE ITS RELATIONS WITH THE USSR, PRC, AND ITS "TRADITIONAL ASSOCIATION WITH THE UNITES STATES." IN STANDARD PAK PHRASEOLOGY, IT CALLS FOR CLOSER TIES WITH THE MUSLIM WORLD, DEVELOPMENT OF GOOD NEIGHBORLY RELATIONS WITH AFGHANISTAN, A SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH BANGLADESH, AND HIRD WORLD UNIT LEADING TO A NEW WORLD POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC ORDER. IT ENVISAGES THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A "BALANCED STRUCTURE OF RELATIONSHIP" AMONG SOUTH ASIAN COUNTRIES BASED ON THE SOVEREIGN EQUALITY OF STATES, AND THE RESOLUTION OF OUTSTANDING DISPUTES, PARTICULARLY A JUST AND EQUITABLE SETTLEMENT OF THE JAMMU AND KASHMIR ISSUE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE WISHES OF THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE. IT MAKES A "SOLEMN PLEDGE" THAT THE PPP "WILL CONTINUE TO EXTEND ALL MORAL AND MATERIAL SUPPORT
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TO THE STRUGGLE OF THE PEOPLE OF THE INDIAN-OCCUPIED AREAS OF THE STATE TO ACHIEVE THEIR LIBERATION." IN ADDITION, THE PPP PLEDGES FULL REHABILITATION OF THE J AND K REFUGEES IN PAKISTAN, AND A STRENGTHENING OF REPRESENTATIVE INSTITUTIONS IN AZAD KASHMIR AND THE NORTHERN AREAS.

6. THE MANIFESTO ALSO PROPOSES SETTING UP A DOMESTIC ARMS INDUSTRY TO PRECLUDE PAKISTAN'S HAVING TO DEPEND ON FOREIGN SUPPLY OF WEAPONS. THIS PLAN CALLS FOR PRODUCTION OF MISSILES, SOPHISTICATED ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT, TANKS, FIGHTER AIRCRAFT, AND NAVAL VESSELS.

7. WE ARE POUCHING COPIES OF THE MANIFESTO TO PAB AND INR. CONSTABLE

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Message Attributes

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